

# Botanical Study Tour to Northwest Yunnan in Southwest China

## Orchids, Scenery and Culture

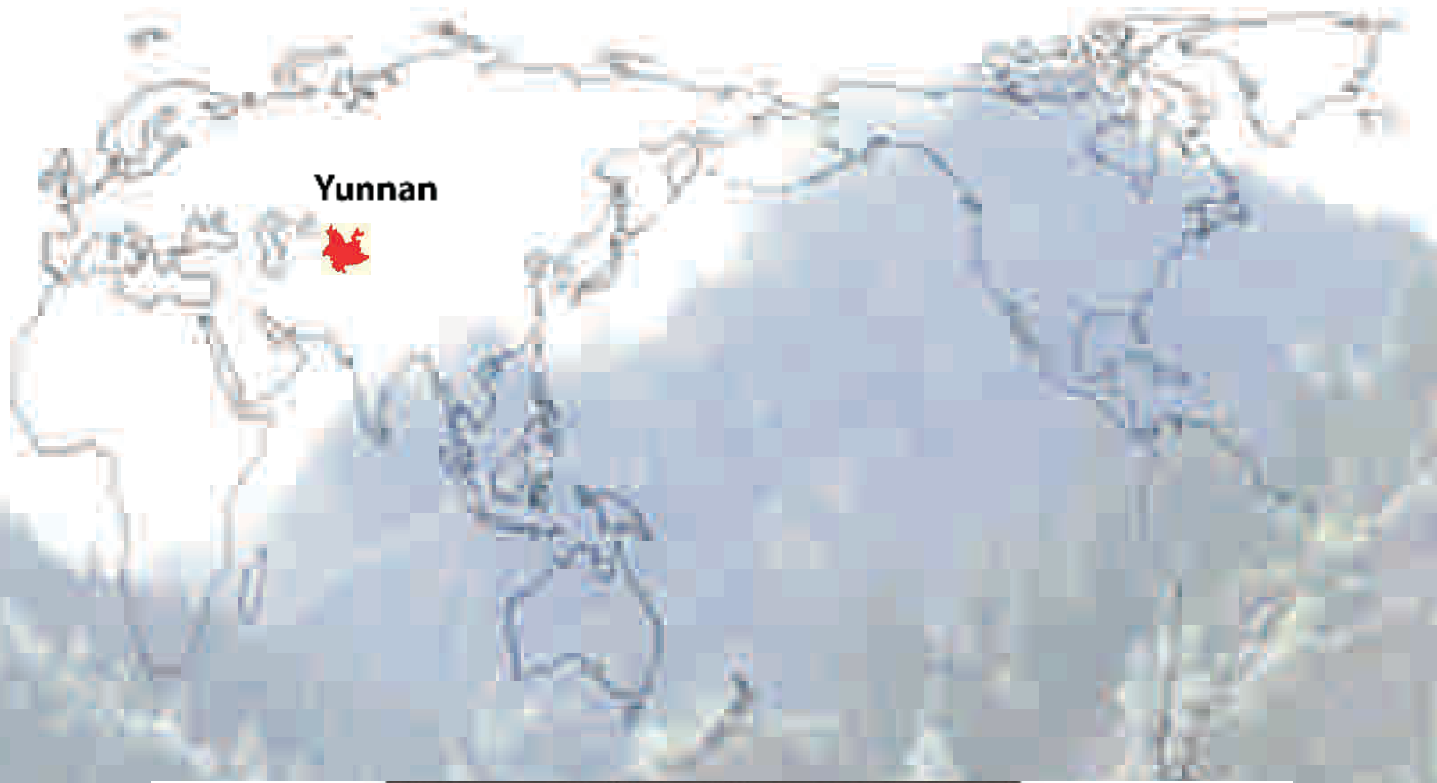
Conducted by **Wenqing Perner & Dr. Hong Jiang**

The mountains of Northwest Yunnan are our destination. We travel mainly within Lijiang Naxi Autonomous Prefecture, Xiangneri-La, Deqin Tibetan Autonomous Prefecture and see some of the most spectacular nature in the northern hemisphere. They are abundant with majestic mountain ranges, harboring a unique wildlife, such as golden snub-nosed monkey, have spectacular lime-stone travertine formations, and they are the home of Naxi, Tibetan and Lili ethnic groups with their colorful culture. The highlight of the tour will be the experience of the richest temperate flora in Asia! South west China is the global distribution center of several genera of high horticultural significance, many alpine plants and *Cypripedium*, which is the tour focuses on this trip in the region, and we expect to see several splendid species in flower. On the tour we mostly stay at altitudes between 2000-3800 m (approx. 6500-10500 ft.).

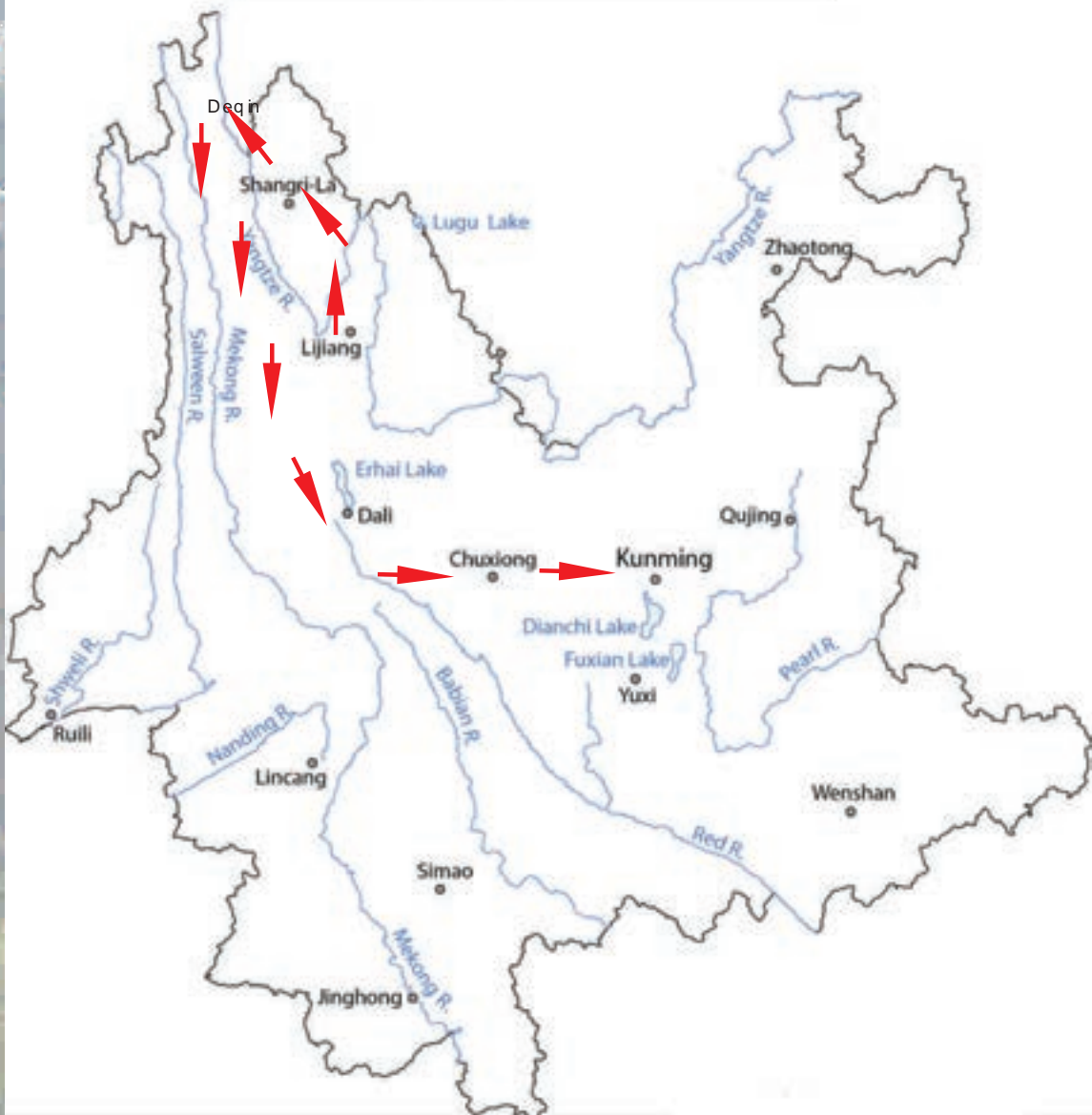
Another highlight of this tour is to experience the authentic cuisine of Yunnan. And up in the mountains we enjoy the merging of Yunnan cooking with that of the Tibetan, Naxi and Lili people.

**14 days, from June 18 to July 1, 2019**  
**Price: 3450US\$, single surcharge:450US\$**





### Rivers and Cities of Yunnan Province



## Itinerary:

- D1 Tuesday 18-June International flight to China
- D2 Wednesday 19-June Arrival in Lijiang, UNESCO World Culture & Nature Heritage Site. Take taxi to hotel on your own (about 20\$), Lijiang sight-seeing, shopping, at dinner time get together. Overnight stay in a 4-star hotel in Lijiang.
- D3 Thursday 20-June Visiting Yulong Snow Mountains (Jade Dragon Mts.). Observing Cyp. Lijiangense, Cyp. margaritaceum and other orchids. Overnight in Lijiang in the same hotel as above, sight-seeing, shopping in Lijiang.
- D4 Friday 21-June Bus ride to Shangri-La (Zhongdian) County, on the way, explore Little Zhongdian, Observe Primula, Getian, Rododendron, Cypripediums and other orchids. Overnight in a 4 star hotel in Shangri-La.
- D5 Saturday 22-June Botanizing in Shangri-La, observing Cyp. yunanense, flavum, tibeticum, plectrochilum, guttatum, Paeonia. etc.  
Bus ride further to Balagezong Grand Canyon, Overnight in a 5 star hotel at Balagezong Grand Canyon.
- D6 Sunday 23-June Explore Balagezong Grand Canyon. Explore Cyp. wardii, Cyp. farreri and other alpine plants. Overnight in the same hotel as above.
- D7 Monday 24-June Bus ride to Balagezong Great Canyon to Meli Snow Mountain, explore alpine meadows. Overnight in Deqin in a 4 star hotel.
- D8 Tuesday 25-June Bus riding from Deqin to Weixi. On the way botanizing orchids, other plants and visit one of the oldest catholic church in Yunnan. Overnight in Black snub-nosed monkey National Park guest house in Weixi
- D9 Wednesday 26-June Observe one of the rarest snub-nosed monkeys, and botanizing in the national park, observe Calanthe, Cephlanthera and other plants. Overnight in the same guest house as above.
- D10 Thursday 27-June Bus ride to Dali, visit Dali Old Town. Overnight in a 4 star hotel.
- D11 Friday 28-June Bus ride to Kunming. Overnight in 4 star hotel in Kunming.
- D12 Saturday 29-June Visit sight-seeing spot Heizhu Stone Forest in Kunming. Overnight in a 4 star Hotel in Kunming. Bus ride from Eryuan to Kunming. Overnight in a 4 star Hotel at Kunming Airport
- D13 Saturday 30-June Flight back home, end of the tour.
- D14 Sunday 1-July Arrival home.

**General remarks:** Please note that the itinerary as presented above is basically fixed, but due to unforeseen circumstances during the tour, i.e. bad weather or traffic problems, we might have to do minor adjustments, like e.g. depart or arrive earlier respectively later as planned.

Hotels will be of 4-star level or higher. In China the tour will be covered by an insurance according to Chinese travel regulations. An international travel health insurance that will cover all the costs involved in cases of sudden serious health issues or accident, including necessary home transport in medical emergency, is highly recommended! Please note that we cannot be held liable for any such costs! Please buy the insurance in advance in your home country.

**Health issues:** No specific health hazards at our destinations in Yunnan came to our knowledge. However, we will stay at altitudes between 2000-3000 m (ca. 6600-9900 ft.) for most of the time on the tour.

The weather is expected to be warm (between 20-30 °C or 68-86 °F) on the low land and cool in the mountains (10-20 °C or 50-68 °F). With the beginning of the monsoon season rainfalls have to be expected, but usually will alternate with sunny weather on a daily basis. We recommend summer clothing for the lowland and some autumn and winter clothing including rain gear and a warm jacket for the mountains. Protection from sun (lotion, sunglasses) and some high altitude headache remedy are recommended as well. Biting insects are unlikely encountered in the mountains. Shoes should be fit for city and field, and they should provide some protection from water.

We will not conduct difficult mountain hikes, but on occasion we have to walk for some time in uneven or steep terrain or walk longer distances on the tour.

**International flights:** Because the tour participants are expected to come from various regions of the world, we do not offer prearranged international flights with this itinerary. Booking inexpensive international flights through your computer at home is easy and reliable. You will want to coordinate the flight schedule with us. If you want to arrive earlier or leave later in China and have some other activities beside our tour we could arrange additional hotel and other relative arrangements at your request.

**Visa:** For every nation different visa regulations for entering China as a tourist apply. Please inform yourself about the necessary procedures for your country. However, in most countries it requires personal attendance for submission of the application or the use of an agent. We will provide formal invitations for your visa application.

The tour will take place when at least 10 persons have signed for it, the maximum number of participants is limited to 15.

Contact: [info@hengduanbiotech.com](mailto:info@hengduanbiotech.com) for Wenqing Perner  
Hengduan Mountains Biotechnology, Ltd. Chengdu, Sichuan, China

**About Tour leaders:** Wenqing Perner, born in China, is fluent in English, German, Chinese and Japanese. She has lived in Japan for 8 years and been a German citizen since 2000.

Wenqing works for the administration of Huanglong National Park in Sichuan and also runs Hengduan Mountains Biotechnology, Ltd., which is specialized in laboratory propagation and nursery raising of orchids, but also produces fruit crops like blueberry shrubs and other plants. Since 1999 Wenqing and her late husband Dr. Holger Perner regularly organized and conducted 1 to 3 botanical study tours in China annually, receive guests from all over the world, and many have participated in 2 or 3 tours with us, some more!

Dr. Hongjiang, a researcher at Yunnan Forrest Research Institute, is an authority of Yunnan flora. He is doing very active field work on orchids and is one of the authors of 'The Wild Orchids in Yunnan'.

**TOUR LEADER WENDING PERNER**



**Tour Leader Dr. Hong Jiang**



**Cypripedium lichiangense**



**Cypripedium farreri**



**Cypripedium wardii with landscape**



**Cypripedium wardii**





*Cypripedium tibeticum*



*Cypripedium margaritaceum*



*Cypripedium plectrochilum*



*Cypripedium margaritaceum*



*Cypripedium yunnanense*



*Cypripedium bardolphianum*



*Cypripedium guttatum*



*Cypripedium flavum*





***Paeonia dayavayi*  
subsp *deyavayi***



***Paeonia dayavayi*  
subsp *lutea***



***Incarvillea mairei***



***Gentiana aristata***



***Omphalogramma  
vincaeflora***



***Ponerorchis  
brevicarata***





**Meconopsis horridula**



**Androsace bulleyana**



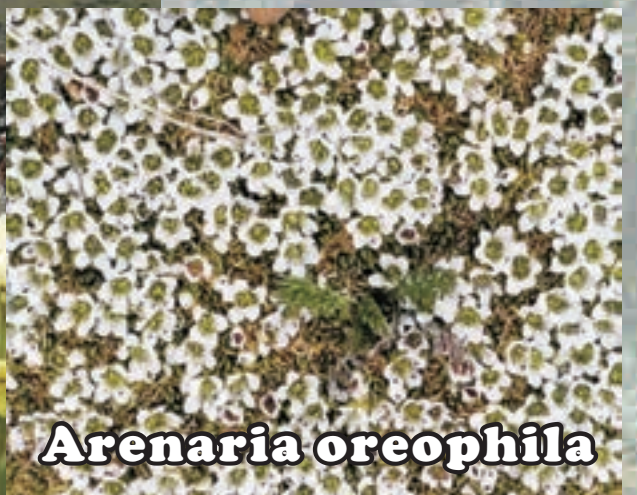
**Arisaema elephas**



**Corydalis flexuosa**



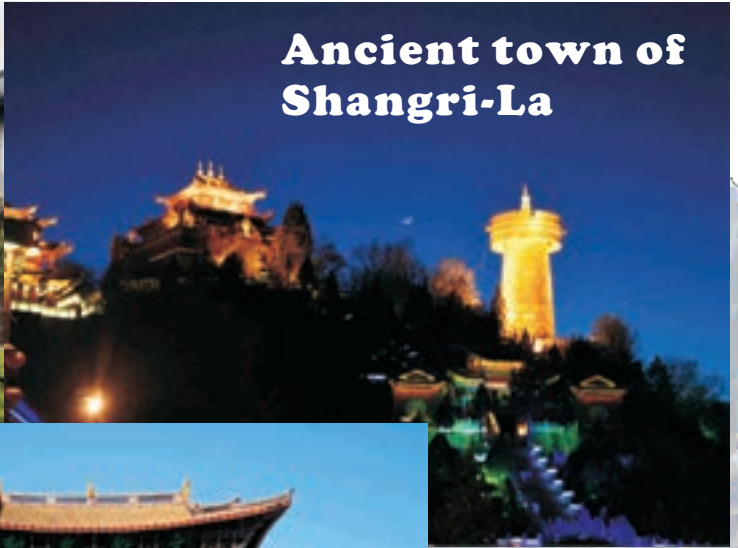
**Meconopsis integrifolia**



**Arenaria oreophila**



**Hotel in Dali**



**Ancient town of Shangri-La**



**Dali ancient town**



**Primula secundiflora**



**Lijiang ancient town**



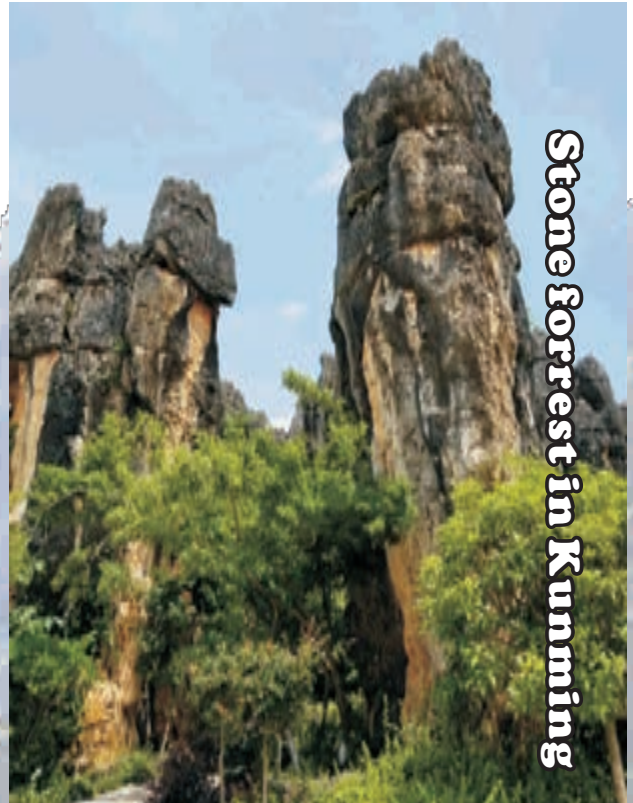
**Tibetan Pagoda**



**Primula faciculata**



**Yunnan Snub-nosed Monkey**



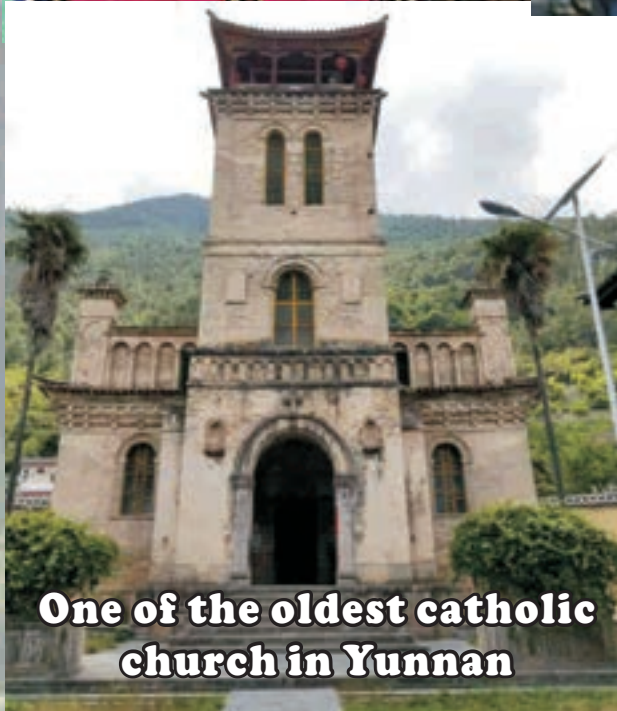
**Stone forest in Kunming**



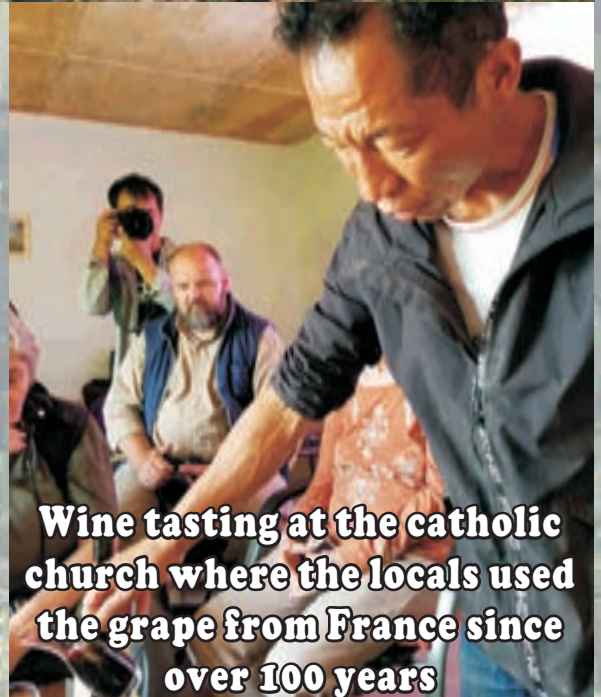
**Ethnic lili woman with her traditional costumes**



**What's up there**



**One of the oldest catholic church in Yunnan**



**Wine tasting at the catholic church where the locals used the grape from France since over 100 years**



**Hotel gate with oriental Cymbidium**



**Visiting local oriental Cymbidium nursery**



**Jinpo style cuisine**

Through Google or Yahoo a lot of additional information about our destinations can be found, here are some links:

<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Kunming>

<http://www.china-embassy.org/eng/hzqz/t84229.htm>

